



The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

November 2020 Newsletter

Upcoming Meetings:

December 11: Bob Heil, K9EID. "The Science of Audio" Very educational delivering information about audio, antennas, building and proper use of your station, all starting with a study of the 1920 study that Bell Labs did about articulation of the human voice. **VIA ZOOM**

January 8: Howard Bernstein, WB2UZE and Jim Crites, W6JIM. Long Island CW Club. This is a club devoted to teaching and cultivating the art of CW. This meeting, as all of their classes are, will be conducted **VIA ZOOM**.

Highlights from the November Meeting:

Meeting called to order via Zoom at 7:30 pm by club president David Spoelstra, N9KT. There were 24 in attendance. Announcements: The Indy United ARC, W9SU (combined with the W9RCA club) placed very well in Field Day! Indy United not only won Class 3A this year but also had the highest score across North America in 2020.

Election of Officers and Board of Directors of the club will be held at the December meeting.

The presentation at the December meeting will be by Bob Heil, K9EID, from Heil Sound and the Ham Nation podcast.

New Members: Nathan, KD9QHF, new Extra. Nathan has a background in electronics and computers, running his computer consulting business from his home.

Dave Gingrich, K9DC, introduced this evening's speaker, Steve Herman, W7VOA, from the Voice of America. Steve is originally from Cincinnati. He and Dave met on IRLP. Steve set up the first IRLP node in Japan.

He got the radio "bug" from his grandfather and was a Short Wave Listener. Getting on the air helped defeat Steve's shyness, and helped with voice training.

Steve showed the first page of his first log from 1972. He still keeps a paper log. He got a first class radiotelephone license (commercial) in order to be qualified to operate a sound board at a 50 KW station, but never needed that license.

He has lived all over the world, and has held 11 foreign amateur licenses. He showed a photo of where he "Modeled" with a couple of Yaesu rigs in Japan, but unfortunately didn't get to keep any of the radios he was shown with.

He had lots of interesting pictures from all over the world, and his operating experiences, including some from Afghanistan. He never has been able to operate aeronautical mobile from Air Force 1, but says maybe someday....

When asked about Air Force 1, he said one rule of thumb was that he had to be able to get his gear up and going on short order even during long flights. He said the food on AF1 food was always pretty good. The Taco bowl was always his favorite! Trivia: M&Ms were introduced on board AF1 by Nancy Reagan when smoking was banned on the plane.

Steve said the White House Press pool rotates among networks, so VOA would travel on every sixth or seventh trip.

His first WH post was with the Trump administration, but he has been on many trips with other administrations, and other offices.

There were lots of good questions from those on line.

The VOA is headquartered in the Cohen Federal Building in Washington, D.C. Steve recommended anyone who hasn't been to the VOA museum in suburban Cincinnati to check it out. Steve considers Bhutan to be the best country for tourists.

He offered to make an in person presentation to the club after COVID. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Ham Radio News:

ARRL SEEKS WAIVER OF PROPOSED FCC AMATEUR APPLICATION FEES

ARRL has urged the FCC to waive its proposed \$50 amateur radio application fee. The Commission proposal was made last month in a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in MD 20-270. The proposal already has drawn more than 3,200 individual comments overwhelmingly opposed to the plan. The fees, directed by Congress and imposed on all FCC-regulated services, are to recover the FCC's costs of handling and processing applications.

The NPRM can be found in PDF format at,
<https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-20-116A1.pdf>.

"Amateur radio applications were not listed when the Congress adopted its 1985 fee schedule for applications, and therefore amateur license applications were excluded from the collection of fees," ARRL said on November 16 in its formal comments on the proposal. "Similarly, a decade later when regulatory fees were authorized, the Amateur Service was excluded, except for the costs associated with issuing vanity call signs." The new statutory provisions are similar. Amateur radio license applications are not addressed in the application fees section and explicitly excluded from regulatory fees," ARRL said, and there is "no evidence of any intent by Congress to change the exempt status of amateur applications and instead subject them to new fees."

ARRL's formal comments can be found online at,
<https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filing/111762316365>.

For more information, go to
<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-seeks-waiver-of-proposed-fcc-amateur-application-fees>

ARECIBO RADIO TELESCOPE DEEMED BEYOND REPAIR

The damaged 305-meter radio telescope at Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico will be decommissioned due to safety concerns, the National Science Foundation (NSF) announced on November 19. The iconic dish has served as a backdrop for several science fiction movies. The Arecibo Observatory Amateur Radio Club, KP4AO, is headquartered at the research facility, and several radio amateurs are employed there.

“Following a review of engineering assessments that found damage to the Arecibo Observatory cannot be stabilized without risk to construction workers and staff at the facility, the US National Science Foundation will begin plans to decommission the 305-meter telescope, which for 57 years has served as a world-class resource for radio astronomy, planetary, solar system, and geospace research,” the NSF said. “The decision comes after NSF evaluated multiple assessments by independent engineering companies that found the telescope structure is in danger of a catastrophic failure, and its cables may no longer be capable of carrying the loads they were designed to support.”

To read the full article, go to

<http://www.arrl.org/news/damaged-giant-radio-telescope-at-arecibo-observatory-deemed-beyond-repair>

W1AW 2020/2021 WINTER OPERATING SCHEDULE

Morning Schedule:

| Time | Mode | Days |
|---------------------|------|----------|
| ----- | ---- | ----- |
| 1400 UTC (9 AM EST) | CWs | Wed, Fri |
| 1400 UTC (9 AM EST) | CWf | Tue, Thu |

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1500 UTC to 1700 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM EST)
1800 UTC to 2045 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST)

(Station closed 1700 to 1800 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM EST))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2100 UTC (4 PM EST) CWf Mon, Wed, Fri
 2100 " " CWs Tue, Thu
 2200 " (5 PM EST) CWb Daily
 2300 " (6 PM EST) DIGITAL Daily
 0000 " (7 PM EST) CWs Mon, Wed, Fri
 0000 " " CWf Tue, Thu
 0100 " (8 PM EST) CWb Daily
 0200 " (9 PM EST) DIGITAL Daily
 0245 " (9:45 PM EST) VOICE Daily
 0300 " (10 PM EST) CWf Mon, Wed, Fri
 0300 " " CWs Tue, Thu
 0400 " (11 PM EST) CWb Daily

Frequencies (MHz)

CW: 1.8025 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975 21.0675 28.0675 50.350 147.555
 DIGITAL: - 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095 28.095 50.350 147.555
 VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390 28.590 50.350 147.555

The W1AW Operating Schedule may also be found on page 87 in the November 2020 issue of QST or on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule> .

UPCOMING INDIANAPOLIS AREA TESTING SESSIONS **(check with sponsor before planning to attend)**

Bloomington IN 47401-5337
 Sponsor: Bloomington ARC Inc
 Date: Dec 05 2020
 Time: 11:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
 Contact: William F. Wootton
 (812) 876-8689
 Email: wfwootton@gmail.com
 VEC: ARRL/VEC
 Location: First United Church 08-01 session full
 2420 E 3rd St
 Register at 11:30am

Testing at 12 NOON
Bloomington IN 47401-5337

Indianapolis IN 46218-2169
Sponsor: Indianapolis RC
Date: Dec 12 2020
Time: 12:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: James K. Rinehart
(317) 721-1458
Email: k9ru@arrl.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Salvation Army EDS Training Facility
4020 Georgetown Rd
CALL AHEAD!!!
Indianapolis IN 46218-2169

Noblesville IN 46060-1624
Sponsor: Central Indiana ARA
Date: Dec 12 2020
Time: 10:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: Joe March
(317) 224-9433
Email: jmarch54@att.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Hamilton Cty Emer Operations Ctr
18100 Cumberland Rd
Sheriff's Campus Training Room
CALL AHEAD
Noblesville IN 46060-1624

Anderson IN 46016-2238
Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club
Date: Dec 15 2020
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Stephen M. Riley
(765) 425-4627

Email: wa9cwe@arrl.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Madison County EOC
200 Delaware St
Anderson IN 46016-2238

Franklin IN 46131-2443
Sponsor: Mid-State ARC
Date: Dec 19 2020
Time: 9:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: Jacki M. Frederick
(317) 432-7095
Email: KI6QOG@yahoo.com
VEC: LAUREL VEC
Location: Franklin Law Enforcement Center
1 Caisson Dr
Franklin IN 46131-2443 Enter at door next to the 90 foot tower

FEEL FREE TO SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER

If you belong to any other radio groups, please feel free to share our newsletter with them. They can also sign up to be on our mailing list by filling out the form available at http://mail.indyradioclub.org/mailman/listinfo/ircnews_indyradioclub.org.

SEND ME YOUR HAM RADIO NEWS

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please send them to Ken Bandy at kj9b@arrl.net

Signals from the Past:

From the October 1960 *Amachewer*:

A very interesting program on TV cameras and tape machines was put on Friday, October 14th by Mr. Robert Brockway, chief engineer of WFBM-TV.

Color cameras have 3 tubes, one for each of the primary colors: Red, Green and Blue. The primary colors could be any three as long as any two do not make the third color. Equal amounts of each primary give white. There are complex systems for separating the three colors which are made of reflecting filters.

Mr. Brockway also explained the new tape machines which use 2" wide tape and has frequency response to about 5 Mc. The tape machine consists of 6 relay racks at a total investment of about \$150,000. It contains 315 tubes plus about 100 diodes.

Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- ~~November 28: Wabash Valley ARA Turkeyfest~~ CANCELED

2020 Officers:

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – davids@mediamachine.com
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - dm0584213@gmail.com
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - kj9b@arrl.net
- Treasurer: Mark Burke, W9MGB - w9mgb@arrl.net
- Chief Operator: Quinton Ritter, KD9MVK - qritter@ivytech.edu
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – k9ru@arrl.net
- Dir. at large: Jay Kraus, W9TC - W9TC@arrl.net
- Dir. at large: Jeff Hammer, N9NIC - n9nic@arrl.net
- Dir. at large: George Taylor, KC9IKD - jr9554@sbcglobal.net
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC - W9TC@arrl.net